## MINUTES OF MEETING State Board of Education March 30, 2006

The March 30 meeting of the State Board of Education was held at the West Des Moines Marriott in conjunction with the Annual AEA Governing Boards Conference. Board members Gene Vincent, Sally Frudden, Charlie Edwards, Sister Jude Fitzpatrick, Rosie Hussey, Wayne Kobberdahl, Greg McClain, Mary Jean Montgomery, Max Phillips, and Tara Richards were present. Also present were Department Director Judy Jeffrey and staff members Gail Sullivan, Lee Tack, Pam Pfitzenmaier, Carol Greta, Kathi Slaughter, Janice Friedel, Max Christensen, Jim Reese, Ralph Childers, Roger Utman, Lana Michelson, LauraBelle Sherman-Proehl and Beverlee Adams. Also in attendance were Anita Dutta, Patraicia Guevara, Jim Rupnow and Jodine Smith, Scavo High School, Des Moines Independent Schools; John Monroe and Liz Clark, Indianola High School; Joe Crozier, Administrator, Area Education Agency 15; Lynn Campbell, *Des Moines Register*, and Rod Boshart, *Cedar Rapids Gazette*.

President Vincent called the meeting to order.

It was moved by Rosie Hussey and seconded by Wayne Kobberdahl to approve the agenda as written.

## **COMMUNICATION**

## **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

## **Director Report**

Director Judy Jeffrey reported on the following items:

- Update on Early Childhood Press Events held on Friday, March 31
- Early childhood legislative event on April 6 at the Capitol featuring Susan Ilgen from the Oklahoma Department of Education to discuss their funding system for early childhood.

- Visit to Columbus Junction Community Schools to see their excellent preschool program.
- Sister Jude Fitzpatrick represented the State Board at a contract signing ceremony between the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the Department of Education. This will offer Iowa teachers the opportunity to teach in Taiwan for one year. We hope to have approximately 16 teachers in the program by next school year, August, 2006.
- Athletic eligibility rules are on the Administrative Rules Review Committee agenda for April 10.
- Introduction of Ralph Childers, Policy and Workforce Initiatives Coordinator, Division of Iowa Rehabilitation Services and Max Christensen, Transportation Consultant, Department of Education, who have provided a tremendous amount of work for the rules that are on the agenda for this Board meeting.

## **Legislative Update**

Director Judy Jeffrey provided a brief legislative update reporting on the most current activity on education legislation.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

#### Minutes

The minutes of the March 1-2, 2006 State Board of Education meeting were approved.

#### Rules

Chapter 41, "Special Education" rule amendments were approved for adoption.

Chapter 43, "Pupil Transportation" rule amendments were approved for notice of intended action.

Chapter 56, "Vocational Rehabilitation" rule amendments were approved for notice of intended action.

## Five-Year Statewide Community College Strategic Plan

Janice Friedel, Administrator and Roger Utman, Education Program Consultant, Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Preparation provided information for this agenda item.

Friedel indicated that Iowa Code 256.31(4)(a) stipulates that the Community College Council "shall prepare a written five-year statewide strategic plan at least once every five years for Iowa's community colleges in consultation with a working group of stakeholders"... and "the plan shall be submitted to the State Board of Education for approval and adoption (Iowa Code 256.31(4)(c))." She reported that the revised plan's implementation date would begin on July 1, 2006.

Roger Utman reviewed the strategic goals outlined for the community colleges.

The community colleges of Iowa will:

- Provide high quality, comprehensive educational programs and services accessible to all lowans.
- Develop high-skilled workers to meet the demands of lowa's economy.
- Maximize financial and human resources to assure provision of comprehensive community college services to lowans and to allow lowa to compete on a national and international level.
- Demonstrate effectiveness and efficiency for achieving the system mission and goals.
- Recruit, enroll, and retain to completion or graduation persons of underrepresented groups and recruit and retain persons from minority racial/ethnic groups in faculty and administrative roles.

Utman discussed the initiatives outlined to accomplish the goals. Director Jeffrey indicated that the performance indicators should also be attached to the goals. Greg McClain felt the community college strategic plan should show linkage between the Department of Education and community colleges and the results should be reported to the Board.

## **High School Reinvention – Promising Iowa Examples**

Jim Reese, Chief, Bureau of Instructional Services introduced staff from Scavo High School of Des Moines and Indianola High School, Indianola. In attendance from Scavo High School were Anita Dutta, Science; Patricia Guevara, Read 180; Jim Rupnow, Speech and Language Arts; and Jodine Smith, Business Education. Mr. John Monroe, Principal and Liz Clark, Site Coordinator were present from Indianola High School.

Reese explained that Iowa's implementation of Comprehensive School Reform (CSR) had been an important feature in the state's overall school improvement strategy. CSR has served as a way for schools to secure resources needed to implement proven strategies and methods to improve academic achievement in the areas of reading and/or mathematics. He said that in a competitive grant process, a school selects or develops a comprehensive school reform model and explains how this model will allow school personnel to better meet the unique needs of its student population. Priority was given to applications from high schools and middle schools in 2004 and 2005. Forty-eight lowa schools received CSR funding. Sixteen different models were implemented. Schools that were selected for funding received a three-year grant award totaling \$150,000.

Staff from Scavo High School shared highlights of their program. Closing the Achievement Gap: Scavo's Blueprint for Success is a locally developed collaborative effort of the staff, students, parents and community representatives of Scavo, an alternative high school within the Des Moines Independent School District. Scavo is in the second year of funding of their three-year CSR grant. The purpose of the effort is to bring additional resources to Scavo that can be focused on increasing student achievement in reading and mathematics and closing the gaps in achievement, increasing students' daily attendance, and increasing the number of Scavo students who graduate from high school.

The Scavo staff members outlined the following major activities in the reform effort:

- Providing professional development and technical assistance to implement Classroom Instruction That Works model and Creating Independence through Student Owned Strategies
- Modifying the advisor/advisee program to strengthen adult/student relationships
- Offering Extended Learning opportunities during Saturdays and summer months
- Increasing the involvement and support of parents
- Expanding community-based learning
- Collaborating with community human service agencies to assist students in overcoming barriers to school attendance and success.

Indianola High School staff indicated the main purpose of Indianola High School's CSR effort had been to improve student achievement by implementing the High Schools That Work (HSTW) model. HSTW is the largest and oldest of the Southern Regional Education Board's school improvement initiatives. John Monroe, Principal, Indianola Community Schools said the goal of HSTW is to prepare students for careers and further education by improving curriculum and instruction. This is the

third year of Comprehensive School Reform funding for Indianola High School. He outlined the following activities that had been implemented:

- 1. Educational excellence for all students
  - Upgrading the academic core and aligning it to district standards
  - Proving more access to academic studies for students
  - Developing a support system that includes parental support for those students who are struggling with challenging curriculum
  - 2. Student Engagement
    - Improving the school environment as a learning climate
    - Implementing effective, research-based instructional strategies
    - Infusing curriculum with real world situations through community partnerships
    - Implementing school-based and work-based learning
  - 3. Professional development
    - Assisting staff in implementing the HSTW model
    - Giving staff time for collaboration
    - Improving teachers' knowledge of content and collaborative methods
    - Integrating instruction with high-level academic and challenging technical content

President Vincent expressed appreciation to the staff of Scavo and Indianola High Schools for the exceptional work in these programs.

# Fiscal Year 2006-2007 Annual Budget Approval for Area Education Agencies (AEAs)

Lee Tack, Administrator, Division of Financial and Information Services, provided a brief summary of the financial reporting and budgeting for AEAs. Tack said that Iowa Code section 273.3, subsection 12, requires that the Board either grant approval or return the budget without approval with comments by April 1. The Board shall give final approval only to budgets submitted by AEAs accredited by the Board or that have been given conditional accreditation by the Board. All Area Education Agencies have been accredited for the 2006-2007 fiscal year. He also introduced Joe Crozier, Administrator, Area Education Agency 15. Mr. Crozier gave a powerpoint presentation on the changing landscape of AEAs and the services they provide.

**Motion:** It was moved by Sally Frudden and seconded by Sister Jude Fitzpatrick that the AEA Budgets for fiscal year 2006-2007 be approved as presented.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

# **Recognition of Board Members**

President Gene Vincent recognized State Board members Sally Frudden, Greg McClain and Tara Richards for their outstanding service to the State Board of Education. The terms for these Board members would be completed on April 30, 2006. Director Judy Jeffrey also expressed the appreciation of the Department for the service of the outgoing Board members.

## **Board Member Reports**

<u>Sally Frudden</u> reviewed a report from the Iowa Learns Council that outlined guiding principles for voluntary universal preschool for Iowa's 3 and 4 year olds. Frudden also reported on a meeting that she, Max Phillips, and Rosie Hussey held in North Iowa with state legislators about stable funding for early childhood.

She reported on her March trip to the National Association of State Boards of Education meeting to participate on the Committee on Early Childhood and attend the legislative conference. She urged the Board to keep on pushing and working toward the identified goals and priorities.

<u>Greg McClain</u> expressed his appreciation for being able to serve on the Board for the last 14 years and the great experience it had provided. He encouraged the Board to continue to champion excellence in education.

A list of proposed topics for the May meeting was handed out.

President Gene Vincent adjourned the meeting.

Gene E. Vincent President	Judy A. Jeffrey, Director and Executive Officer